

Dinesh Adhikari
Deputy Director



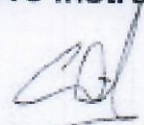
No.1/Comm/Bol/2020-90
BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION
(Ministry of Home Affairs)
Government of India

New Delhi, the March 18, 2020

Subject : Visa restrictions related to COVID-19

This is in continuation of our communication No.1/Comm/Bol/2020-87 dated 16.03.2020 and no. 75/Health/2020-II-633 dt. 17.03.2020 on the subject mentioned above.

2. As per Government instructions, any passenger from any destination who have been to European Union, European Free Trade Association, Turkey, United Kingdom, Afghanistan, Philippines and Malaysia on or after February 15, 2020, have been prohibited from entering India, from any of the Land/Air/Seaport ICPs with effect from 1200 hrs GMT on March 18, 2020 at the port of first departure.
3. In view of the above no airline will take on board any passenger from any destination who has been to UK, European Union (27 countries), European Free Trade Association (4 countries), Turkey, United Kingdom, Afghanistan, Philippines and Malaysia on or after February 15, 2020 for onward journey to India.
4. The above instructions may be shared immediately with all concerned Airlines/ Shipping agents etc and all immigration officers/ ICPs under your jurisdiction for immediate implementation **REPEAT the above instructions may be conveyed to all concerned positively.**


(Dinesh Adhikari)
Deputy Director

Subject :Travel and Visa restrictions related to COVID- reg.

In supersession of all earlier advisories issued on this subject BoI has issued the following instructions in pursuance of the meeting of Cabinet Secretary on March 10, 2020.

- (i) All regular (sticker) Visas/e-Visa granted to nationals of **France, Germany and Spain** and issued on or before **11.3.2020** and who have not yet entered India stand suspended with immediate effect.
- (ii) All regular (sticker) Visas/e-Visa (including VoA for Japan and South Korea) granted to nationals of **Italy, Iran, South Korea, Japan** and which have been issued on or before **03.03.2020** and who have not yet entered India remain suspended .
- (iii) Regular (sticker) visa/e-Visa granted to nationals of **China**, issued on or before **05.02.2020** suspended earlier continue to be suspended.
- (iv) Regular (sticker) visas/E-Visas granted to **all foreign nationals who have travelled to China, Iran, Italy, South Korea, Japan, France, Germany and Spain** on or after **01.02.2020** and who have not yet entered India stands suspended with immediate effect.
- (v) All aforementioned restricted category of foreign nationals may not enter India from any Air, Land or Seaport ICPs. Those requiring to travel to India due to compelling reasons, may seek fresh visa from the nearest Indian embassy/consulate. Italian and South Korean nationals, who are granted fresh visa issued after 05.03.2020 should carry 'tested negative for COVID-19' medical certificate from designated laboratories of Italy and South Korea.
- (vi) **Indians and OCI card holders from Italy and South Korea** should carry 'tested negative for COVID-19' medical certificate from designated laboratories of Italy and South Korea. **OCI card holders of other countries are free from visa restrictions but shall need to undergo mandatory health check upon arrival in India.**

- (vii) Visas of all foreigners already in India remain valid. They may contact the nearest FRRO/FRO through e-FRRO module for extension/conversion etc of their visa or grant of any consular service if they choose to do so.
- (viii) Holders of Diplomatic passports, Official passports, officials of UN and other international bodies and aircrew from above eight countries are exempted from such restriction on entry. However, their medical screening on arrival is compulsory.
- (ix) All foreign and Indian nationals entering into India from any port are required to furnish a pair of duly filled self-declaration forms (including personal particulars i.e. Phone number and address in India) and travel history to health officials and immigration officials at all arrival ports.
- (x) These restrictions will remain in force till further orders.

FAQ ON NEW VISA RESTRICTIONS - COVID-19

INDIAN NATIONALS WHO WANT TO RETURN TO INDIA

SL NO	QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
1.	Whether they will be quarantined upon arrival in India?	Only those who have visited China, Republic of Korea, Iran, Italy, Spain, France and Germany on or after Feb 15, 2020 will be quarantined for 14 days.
2.	Is COVID-19 Negative Certificate mandatory for Indians?	Only for those who are coming from Republic of Korea or Italy.
3.	Whether Indians transiting through China, Republic of Korea, Iran, Italy, Spain, France and Germany be quarantined on arrival in India?	No. Transit through Airport is not considered stay.

INDIAN NATIONALS WHO WANT TO GO ABROAD

SL NO	QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
1.	Whether Indians are allowed to go abroad?	Indians are strongly advised to avoid non essential travel to Corona Virus affected countries. On their return to India from affected countries China, Republic of Korea, Iran, Italy, Spain, France and Germany they will be mandatorily quarantined.

FOREIGNERS WHO ARE PRESENTLY IN INDIA

SL NO	QUESTION	ANSWER
1.	Whether they can extend their Indian visas before expiry?	Yes, they should approach their jurisdictional FRRO/FROs through e-FRRO (https://indianfrro.gov.in/frro/)
2.	Whether they can go out of India and return back?	Yes they can go out of India. However, before April 15, 2020, they would require a fresh visa to enter India again.

FOREIGNERS WHO WANT TO COME TO INDIA

SL NO	QUESTION	ANSWER
1.	Which visa categories are allowed to enter India?	Those who hold Employment and Project visa, Diplomatic passport holders, Official passport holders, those in UN / International organizations.
2.	Are dependents of exempted category visa category allowed?	No
3.	Are infants/children who hold foreign passports but parents is Indian allowed?	No. They are required to get fresh visa from Indian Mission/Post.
4.	Are Nepal, Bhutan and Maldives passport holders allowed?	Nepal and Bhutan nationals are allowed. Maldives nationals would require visa.
5.	Are foreign nationals with RC/RP/Stay Visa allowed to enter?	Only those foreigners who have RC/RP/Stay Visa w.r.t Employment/Project Visas.
6.	Is COVID-19 Negative Certificate mandatory ?	Only for those foreigners who are travelling to India from/visited Italy or Republic of Korea.
7.	Can foreigners avail direct transit facility at Indian Airport?	Yes. However, even in transit, medical screening is mandatory.
8.	Who is the competent authority to issue COVID-19 Negative Certificates in Italy and Republic of Korea?	Hospitals/Labs recognized by Govt of Italy and Republic of Korea respectively.

OCI CARD HOLDERS

SL NO	QUESTION	ANSWER
1.	Are OCI Card holders allowed?	No. They are required to get fresh visa from Indian mission/post.
2.	Are infants/children who hold foreign passports with OCI cards but parents is Indian allowed?	No. Infants/Children are required to get fresh visa from Indian Mission/Post.
3.	Whether OCI Card holders coming from/visited Republic of Korea and Italy require COVID-19 Negative Certificates?	Yes.

DIPLOMATS, OFFICIAL, UN/INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHERS

SL NO	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Are Diplomats, Official, UN/International Organization passports holders allowed to enter India?	Yes
2.	Are dependents of Diplomats on normal passports allowed?	No
3.	Are Diplomats, Official, UN/International Organization passports holders required to carry COVID-19 Negative Certificates if they arrive from Italy or Republic of Korea?	Yes.
4.	Which are the International Organizations allowed?	UN Bodies and other recognized International organizations.
5.	Foreign crew allowed on GD if they have visited China, Republic of Korea, Iran, Italy, Spain, France and Germany on or after Feb 15, 2020 in their personal capacity?	No



Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Government of India



Help us to
help you

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



Protect yourself and others!

Follow these Do's and Don'ts

Do's ✓



Practice frequent hand washing. Wash hands with soap and water or use alcohol based hand rub. Wash hands even if they are visibly clean



Cover your nose and mouth with handkerchief/tissue while sneezing and coughing



Throw used tissues into closed bins immediately after use



See a doctor if you feel unwell (fever, difficult breathing and cough). While visiting doctor wear a mask/cloth to cover your mouth and nose



If you have these signs/symptoms please call State helpline number or Ministry of Health & Family Welfare's 24X7 helpline at 011-23978046



Avoid participating in large gatherings

Don'ts ✗



Have a close contact with anyone, if you're experiencing cough and fever



Touch your eyes, nose and mouth



Spit in public

Together we can fight Coronavirus

For further information :
Call at Ministry of Health, Govt. of India's 24X7 control room number
+91-11-2397 8046
Email at ncov2019@gmail.com

As on 10-03-2020

**Government of India
Ministry of Health & FW**

Additional Travel Advisory (I) for COVID-19 on Home Isolation

More than 100 countries across the world now have reported cases of COVID-19. People traveling to these countries or people who have travelled abroad might possibly have come in contact with people affected with COVID-19 during their stay or even while in transit at the airports. Within these countries, few countries have reported very large number of cases and deaths putting passengers from these countries particularly at higher risk of infection.

Accordingly, in addition to the consolidated travel advisory issued on 6th March, 2020, the following are advised:

- i. All incoming international passengers returning to India should self-monitor their health and follow required Do's and Dont's as detailed by Government.
 - ii. Further, all passengers having travel history to China, Hong Kong, Republic of Korea, Japan, Italy, Thailand, Singapore, Iran, Malaysia, France, Spain and Germany are advised to undergo self-imposed quarantine for a period of 14 days from the date of their arrival. If such passengers are working in some organizations/institutions, their respective employers are advised to facilitate work from home during this period.
 - iii. With respect to restrictions on visa, besides the already issued instructions, all regular Visas (including e Visas) which have been granted to nationals of France, Germany and Spain on or before 11.03.2020 and where these foreigners have not yet entered India stands suspended.
 - iv. Regular visas (including e Visas) granted to all foreign nationals who have travel history to these countries on or after 1.2.2020 and who have not yet entered India also stands suspended.
 - v. Visas of all foreigners already in India remain valid and they may contact the nearest FRRO/FRO through e-FRRO module for extension/conversion etc of their visa or grant of any consular service, if they choose to do so.
- A detailed notification to this effect is being issued by the Bureau of Immigration (BOI).

As on 10-03-2020

**Government of India
Ministry of Health & FW**

Additional Travel Advisory (II) for COVID-19 for Indians intending to travel abroad

More than 100 countries across the world now have reported cases of COVID-19. People traveling to these countries or people who have travelled abroad might come in contact with people affected with COVID-19 during their stay or even while in transit at the airports. Within these countries, few countries have reported very large number of cases and deaths putting passengers from these countries particularly at higher risk of infection.

In view of the above, Indian citizens are advised:

- i. To avoid non- essential travel abroad.
- ii. They are further strongly advised to refrain from travelling to China, Italy, Iran, Republic of Korea, Japan, France, Spain and Germany.